

Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Thursday - 21 March 1957

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The Director read a letter of 19 March 1957 from Chairman Gordon of the House Foreign Affairs Committee relative to his invitation to appear on 26 March before the European Subcommittee. He called Mr. Vinson, who felt very strongly that the Director should not appear, and indicated he would speak to Gordon. I discussed the problem with Bryce Harlow of the White House, who suggested that the Director have a private chat with Gordon, during which he would try to make the Chairman understand the reasons why he was so reluctant to appear before subcommittees. The Director thought this a good approach, and called Chairman Gordon. Gordon didn't seem too concerned, and suggested to the Director that if he couldn't come up he should simply send him a letter and say so in so many words. The Director did agree with Mr. Gordon that he would contact Mrs. Kelly, Chairman of the Subcommittee, and offer to discuss the matter personally with her. The Director tried to reach Mrs. Kelly by phone, but she had left for New York and would not be back until Tuesday morning. The Director also called Congressman Fulton, ranking Minority member of the Subcommittee, and Fulton indicated that he would like very much to talk to the Director about how CIA operates. The matter was left that the Director would call both Kelly and Fulton Tuesday morning and that the three would try to get together either on the Hill or down here.

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